



The Guide: Summer

South Rim Information and Maps

FIND YOUR PARK

Begin your Adventure

1–2 hours

- **Walk** five minutes from Grand Canyon Visitor Center to Mather Point to see Grand Canyon. Continue along the Rim Trail as time allows.
- **Ride** the Kaibab/Rim Route (orange) shuttle bus to Grand Canyon viewpoints.
- **Explore** exhibits at Grand Canyon Visitor Center and see the park movie, *A Journey of Wonder*.

2–4 hours

- **Attend** a park ranger program and learn about Grand Canyon.
- **Walk** 2.4 miles (3.9 km) from Grand Canyon Visitor Center to South Kaibab Trailhead and ride the Kaibab/Rim Route (orange) shuttle bus back.
- **Hike** into Grand Canyon along Bright Angel Trail to the Lower Tunnel to get a taste of the canyon's immensity.
- **Bicycle** the Greenway Trail and feel the wind on your face.

All Day

- **Drive** the 25-mile (40 km) Desert View Drive. Stop at viewpoints, learn about ancestral Puebloan people at Tusayan Museum, and climb to the top of the historic Desert View Watchtower.
- **Pick up** a Junior Ranger booklet from any park visitor center. Complete the booklet to earn a free badge.
- **Hike** 7.8 miles (12.6 km) on the Rim Trail from the Village to Hermits Rest to see diverse views. Return via the Hermits Rest Route (red) shuttle bus.

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Emergencies

Dial 911 or from hotel rooms dial 9-911

North Country Grand Canyon Clinic
8 am–6 pm, daily; 928-638-2551

Park Ranger Programs

Discover Grand Canyon with free programs given by park rangers and volunteers in or near the Village. For Desert View programs, see page 8. Since parking is limited, park rangers recommend you ride the free shuttle bus to program locations. Children under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Outdoor programs may be cancelled or moved inside during inclement weather or when lightning danger is present. Times are mountain standard, which is the same as Pacific time through October 31. Check at visitor centers and hotels for additional program offerings.

Time	Program	Meeting Location	Duration/Distance	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
7 am	Into the Canyon Hike Discover the canyon's beauty and natural history while descending 1,120 ft (340 m) on an unpaved trail. Strenuous hike; not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems or difficulty walking. Bring water, snacks, sunscreen, and wear sturdy hiking shoes.	South Kaibab Trailhead	3–4 hours 3 miles (4.8 km)	√		√		√		√
8:30 am	Rim View Walk Travel the paved Rim Trail and learn about natural history and some of the critical issues facing Grand Canyon. To return, you may choose to hike back, continue on to Hermits Rest, or ride the shuttle bus.	Bright Angel Trailhead sign	2 hours 2 miles (3.2 km)		√		√		√	
9:30 am	Science in the Park: Life of an Oak Experience hands-on current research and become a citizen scientist in your community.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center flagpole	60 minutes		√			√		
9:30 am	Fossil Discovery Walk This easy walk explores what fossils tell us about the geologic story of ancient life and why they should be protected.	Bright Angel Trailhead sign	60 minutes 0.2 miles (300 m)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
10:30 am	Canyon in Focus For centuries explorers, scientists, and artists have captured the majesty of Grand Canyon through art or writing. Hike along a less-traveled trail and find your inspiration. Journals provided.	South Kaibab Trailhead	60 minutes 1 mile (1.6 km)	√		√	√		√	√
1 pm	A Walk Through History Hear stories of people's enduring relationship with Grand Canyon and take a short walk around the village historic district. Perfect for train passengers. Accessible.	Verkamp's Visitor Center flagpole	45 minutes 0.3 miles (500 m)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2 pm and 3:30 pm	Geology Glimpse Gain a quick insight into Grand Canyon's unique geologic story. Following the talk, consider walking the Trail of Time or exploring Yavapai Geology Museum. Accessible.	Yavapai Geology Museum	30 minutes	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4 pm	Condor Talk Learn about the majestic and endangered California condor, its reintroduction to northern Arizona, and its ongoing struggle for survival. Accessible.	Village Amphitheater	45 minutes	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Stop by anytime between 6 pm and 8 pm	Ranger on the Rim Drop by and visit with a park ranger for sunset. Accessible.	Hopi Point	Varies, stop by for as short or as long as you would like.	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
8:30 pm, May to July 8 pm, Aug to Sept	Evening Program Relax beneath the stars and enjoy a presentation about the park's fascinating natural or cultural history. Check visitor centers for topics. Accessible with assistance. <i>No program June 13–20; join Star Party.</i>	McKee Amphitheater	45 minutes		√		√			√
Evening; check visitor centers for time	Ranger Rendezvous Discover Grand Canyon in the evening! Explore some of the park's lesser-known stories and facts. Programs include star talks, night hikes to the rim, cemetery tours, and more. Dress warmly. <i>No program June 13–20; join Star Party.</i>	Check visitor centers	45–60 minutes	√		√		√		
Evening; check visitor centers for time	Science in the Park: Night Skies Experience hands-on current research and become a citizen scientist in your community. <i>No program June 13–20; join Star Party.</i>	McKee Amphitheater	60 minutes						√	

Junior Ranger Programs

Time	Programs for Families with Children Ages 6–14	Meeting Location	Duration/Distance	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
9 am	Family Adventure Hike Hike the challenging Hermit Trail and learn about rocks, fossils, plants, and animals. Bring water, salty snacks, sunscreen, and wear sturdy hiking shoes. To arrive on time, board the free Hermits Rest Route shuttle bus by 7:30 am. Steep, rocky, strenuous hike not recommended for people with heart or respiratory problems, difficulty walking, or an extreme fear of heights.	Hermits Rest bell	2 hours June 14 to Aug 8 2 miles (3.2 km)	√		√		√		√
9 am	Discovery Pack Borrow a discovery pack and explore Grand Canyon with your family. The pack contains naturalist tools and plant and animal field guides to help you on your adventure. Parents check out the packs in the morning and must return them between 3:30 and 5 pm at Verkamp's Visitor Center. Accessible.	Outside Verkamp's Visitor Center	60 minutes June 14 to Aug 8	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
10 am	Walk on the Wild Side Explore the canyon's natural world during this walk through the forest to the canyon rim. Rocky surfaces and uneven terrain; sturdy shoes advised.	Shrine of the Ages wooden benches	60 minutes June 14 to Sept 7 0.5 mile (0.8 km)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
2 pm	Natural Wonders Discover what makes Grand Canyon one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Accessible.	El Tovar Hotel rim patio	30 minutes June 14 to Sept 7	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4:30 pm	Kids Rock! Enjoy games and activities introducing children to the natural and historic wonders of Grand Canyon.	Shrine of the Ages wooden benches	60 minutes June 14 to Sept 7	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
5 pm	Critter Chat Learn about Grand Canyon's diverse wild inhabitants. Accessible.	Grand Canyon Visitor Center flagpole	30 minutes June 14 to Aug 8	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
7:30 pm	Twilight Zone Experience the night with activities connecting children to the canyon's nocturnal world. Rocky surfaces and uneven terrain; sturdy walking shoes advised. Bring a flashlight.	Shrine of the Ages wooden benches	60–90 minutes June 14 to Aug 8		√		√		√	

Park Ranger Programs Down in Grand Canyon

Are you hiking to Phantom Ranch or Indian Garden? If so, discover fascinating aspects of the inner canyon with a wide range of natural and cultural history programs. *These programs are only accessible by a long, strenuous hike or mule ride.*

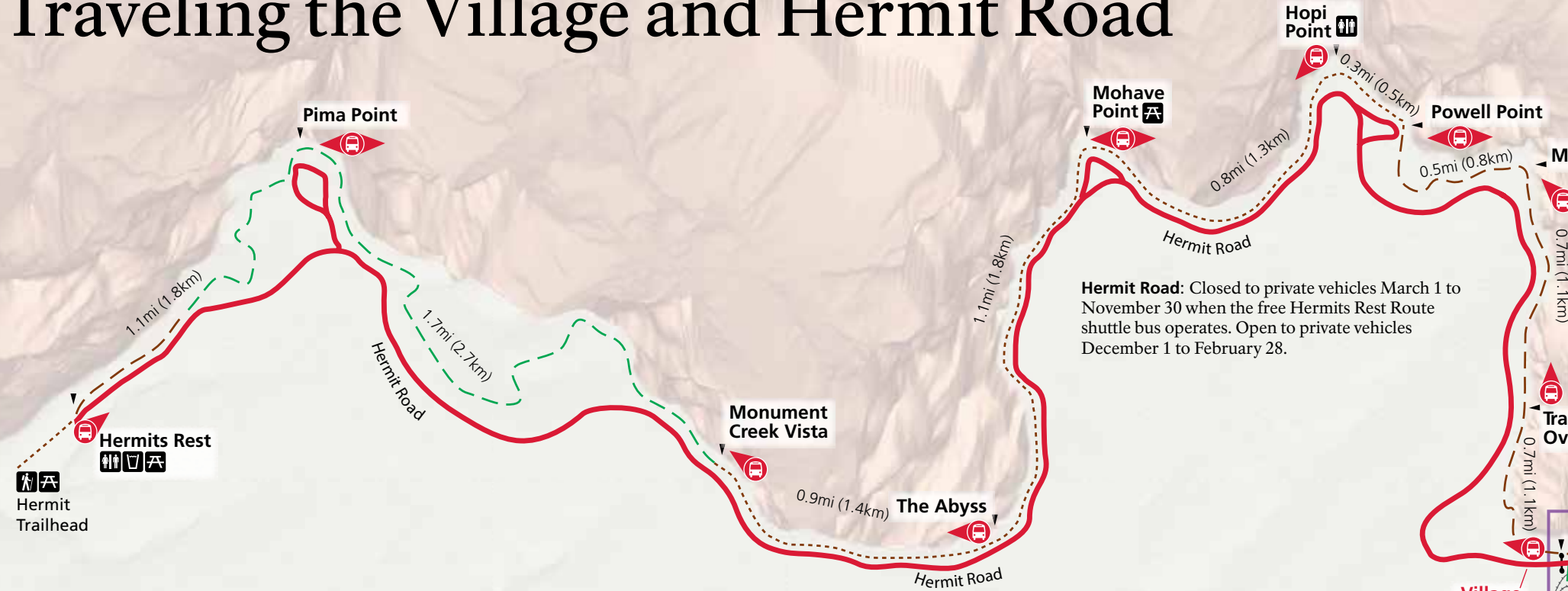
Indian Garden, times vary, Saturday to Tuesday

Check the bulletin board for program topics, locations, and times. Wilderness Explorer Junior Ranger booklet available. Accessible only by hiking 4.5 miles (7.2 km) down Bright Angel Trail.

Phantom Ranch, 4 pm and 7:30 pm, Daily

Check bulletin boards for program locations and topics. Phantom Ranch Junior Ranger activity booklet available. Accessible only by hiking or a mule ride to the bottom of Grand Canyon.

Traveling the Village and Hermit Road



Common Shuttle Bus Questions

Are the shuttle buses free?
Yes, your entrance fee includes shuttle bus transportation—a great way to start your Grand Canyon experience.

How do the shuttle buses work?
Running like a city bus system, four shuttle bus routes access viewpoints, trails, visitor centers, lodges, restaurants, and gift shops. Just wait at any bus stop and enjoy the ride. Shuttle buses do not drive to Desert View.

How can I tell the difference between shuttle bus routes?
The front of the free, green and white shuttle bus displays the name of the route and its color.

Why is the shuttle bus not full?
To ensure room for passengers waiting at the next stops, shuttle buses do not fill at their first stop.

What are the shuttle bus rules?

- No eating or open drink containers.
- No pets. Service animals permitted.
- Collapse strollers before entering the shuttle bus. No oversized or jogging strollers. Remove baby-back carriers when seated.
- Shuttle buses can accommodate two or three bicycles, but not tag alongs, baby trailers, or children's bicycles with wheels less than 16 inches (41 cm). Riders must load and unload their bicycles.
- Shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops.

Will my wheelchair fit on the bus?
Shuttle buses are equipped with ramps to accommodate wheelchairs smaller than 30 inches wide by 48 inches long (76 by 122 cm). Most motorized scooters will not fit on shuttle buses.

Common Driving and Parking Questions

Where can I drive my car?
You can drive roads indicated by a solid black line on the maps in this newspaper. Yaki Point and Hermit roads are closed to private vehicles. To reach those areas, ride the free shuttle bus.

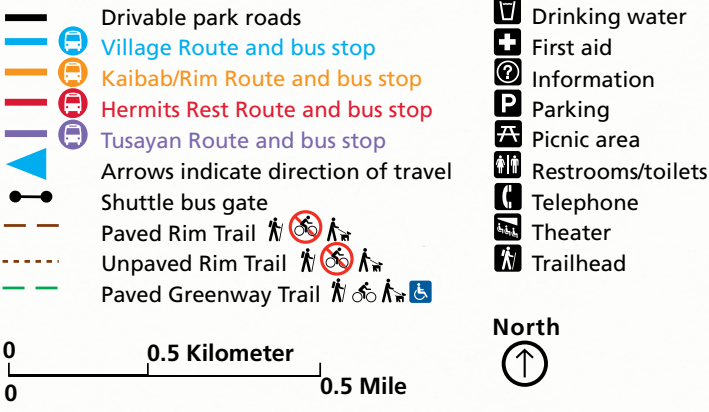
A Scenic Drive Accessibility Permit allows visitors with mobility issues entry to some areas closed to public traffic. Obtain a permit at entrance gates and visitor centers.

Where can I park?
Lots 1–4 fill early in the day; use Lots A, B, C, and D which are located near shuttle bus stops.

- **Parking lots 1–4** Grand Canyon Visitor Center. Lot 1 includes auto, RV, and trailer parking.
- **Parking Lot A** Park Headquarters
- **Parking Lot B** Market Plaza
- **Parking Lot C** near Center Road in the Village
- **Parking Lot D** Backcountry Information Center; includes auto parking at the north end and RV and trailer parking at the south end.

What else do I need to know about driving?
Do not stop in the road, block traffic, or park along the roadside, except where signs or lines on the road indicate it is permitted. Use pull-outs to take photos. Keep a safe distance of at least 75 feet (23 m), or about six car lengths, from wildlife.

LEGEND



Note: May 21–22, Hermits Rest Route and Village Route shuttle buses begin 30 minutes later than times listed. The Village Route shuttle bus runs until 10 pm; visitors should be at a bus stop no later than 9:30 pm.

HERMITS REST ROUTE—RED ROUTE

- 80 minutes roundtrip
- Nine viewpoints
- Toilets at Hopi Point
- Water, snack bar, toilets, and gift shop at Hermits Rest
- Schedule
 - Every 30 minutes, 4–6:45 am
 - Every 15 minutes, 6:45 am to sunset
 - Every 30 minutes, sunset to one hour after sunset
 - For last bus, be at a bus stop no later than 30 minutes after sunset. See sunset times on page 2.

KAIBAB/RIM ROUTE—ORANGE ROUTE

- 50 minutes roundtrip
- Stops at several viewpoints, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and Yavapai Geology Museum
- Access to South Kaibab Trailhead
- Schedule
 - Every 30 minutes, 4:30–6 am
 - Every 15 minutes, 6 am to one hour after sunset
 - For last bus, be at a bus stop no later than 30 minutes after sunset. See sunset times on page 2.

VILLAGE ROUTE—BLUE ROUTE

- 50 minutes roundtrip
- Stops at Grand Canyon Visitor Center, hotels, restaurants, and campgrounds
- Grand Canyon views are a short walk from some shuttle bus stops
- Schedule
 - Every 30 minutes, 4–6:15 am
 - Every 15 minutes, 6:15 am–7 pm
 - Every 30 minutes, 7–11 pm
 - For last bus, be at a bus stop no later than 10:30 pm.

TUSAYAN ROUTE—PURPLE ROUTE

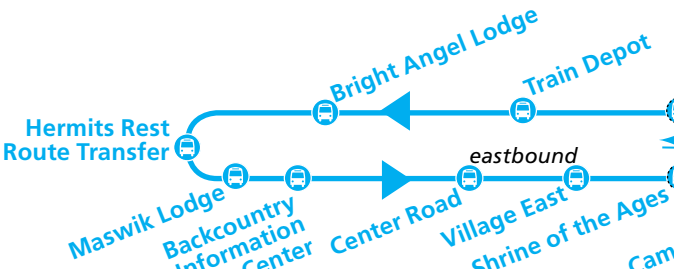
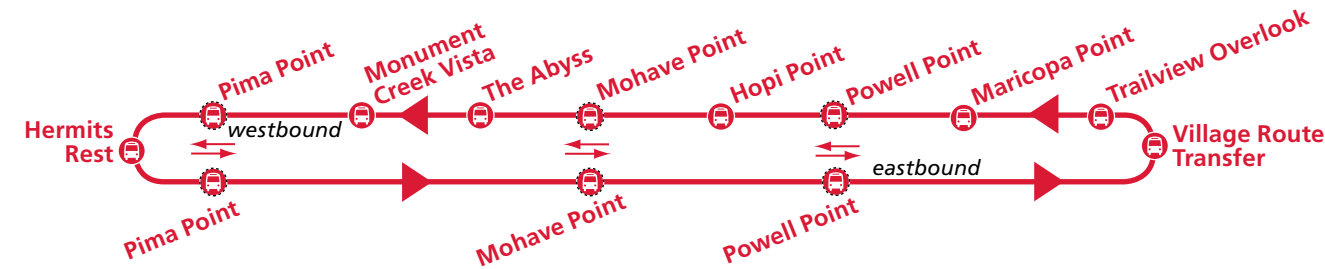
- PARK AND RIDE: WE'LL BE YOUR GUIDE**
- Begins May 23
 - 40 minutes roundtrip
 - Stops at IMAX, Best Western Grand Canyon Squire Inn, The Grand Hotel, Big E Steakhouse & Saloon, and Grand Canyon Visitor Center
 - Buses run every 20 minutes:
 - First bus leaves IMAX at 8 am; last bus leaves at 9:45 pm
 - First bus leaves Grand Canyon Visitor Center at 8:25 am; last bus leaves at 9:30 pm.

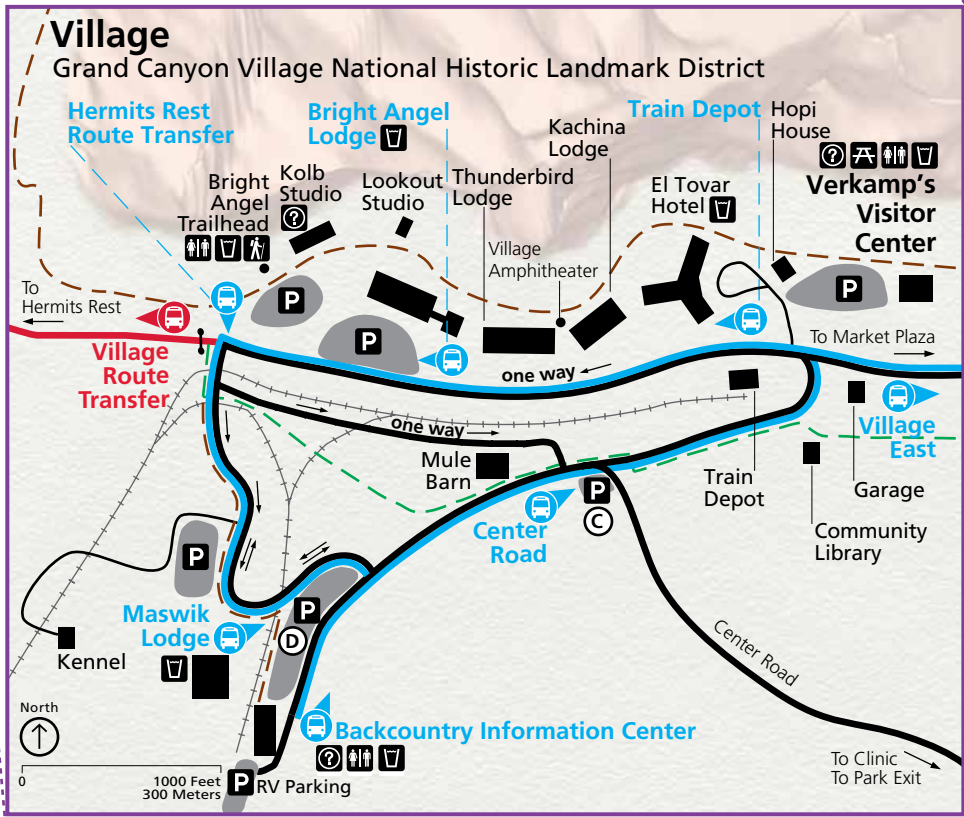
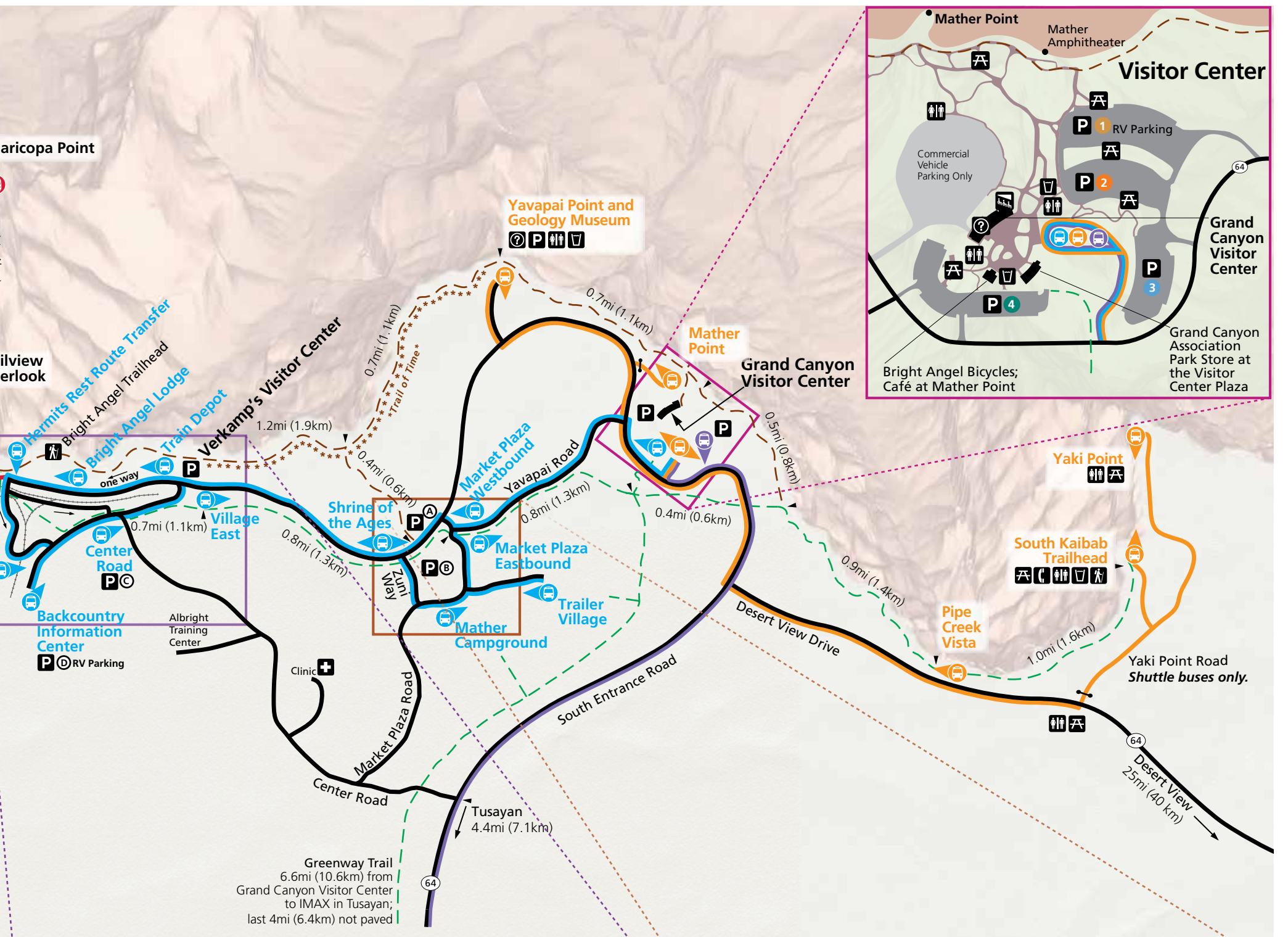
HIKERS' EXPRESS BUS

Express service to South Kaibab Trailhead. Shuttle bus starts at Bright Angel Lodge, then stops at the Backcountry Information Center, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and South Kaibab Trailhead.

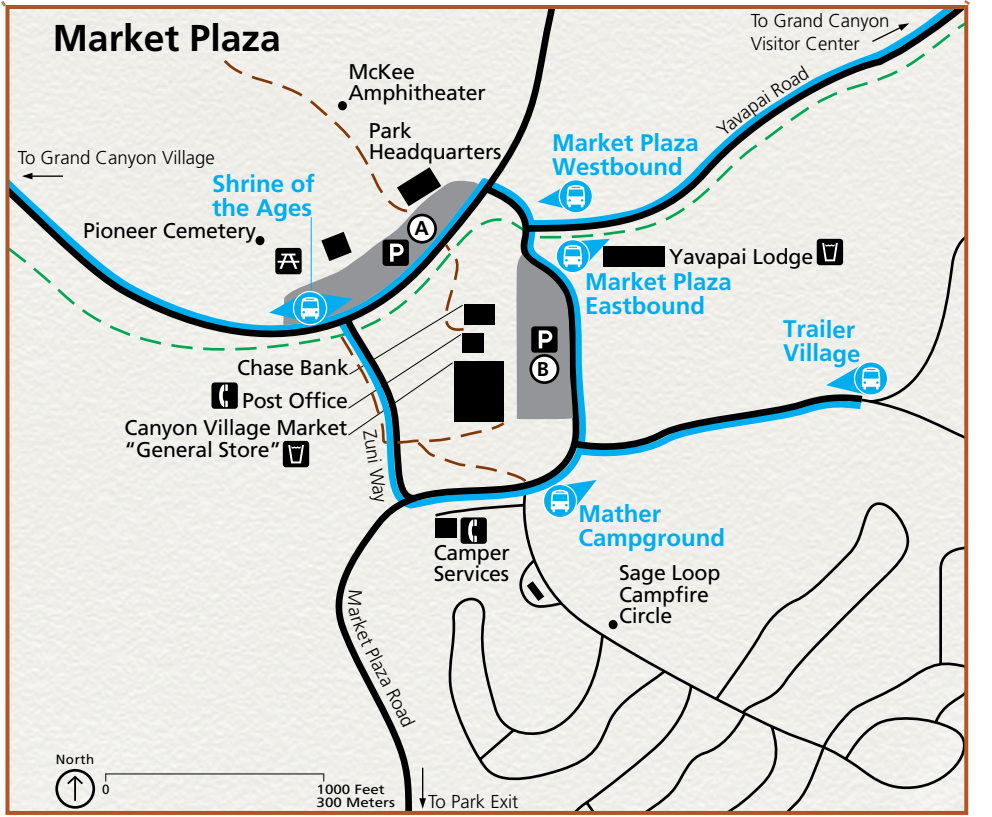
Bus leaves Bright Angel Lodge at:

- 5 am, 6 am, 7 am in May
- 4 am, 5 am, and 6 am in June, July, and August
- 5 am, 6 am, 7 am in September

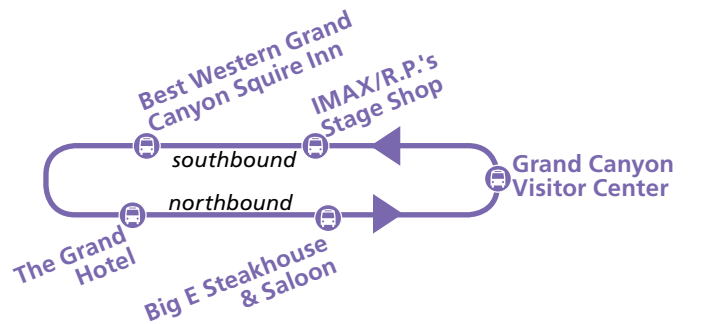
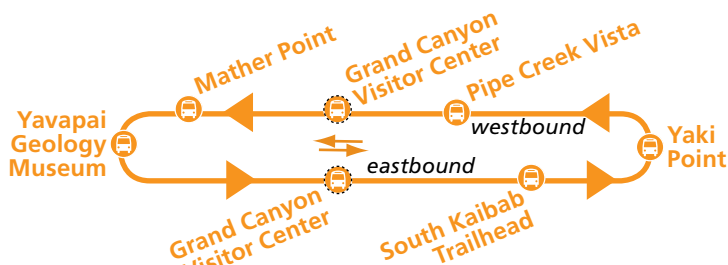
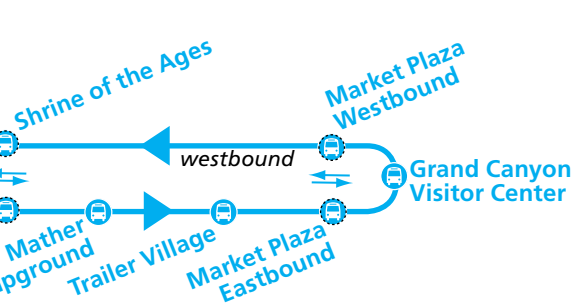




Find food, lodging, restrooms, free drinking water, gift shops, GCA Park Stores, and an ATM in the Village.



Find food, lodging, camping, restrooms, free drinking water, groceries, gift shops, and an ATM at Market Plaza.



Protect the Park, Protect Yourself

Please report any concerns to a park employee.

Elevation Use sunblock, stay hydrated, take your time, and rest to reduce the risk of sunburn, dehydration, nausea, shortness of breath, and exhaustion. The high elevation (7,000 feet/2,135 m) and dry climate here affects you differently than your home environment.

Weather Monsoon storms are common during summer. When you hear thunder, move away from the canyon rim. Do not stand under a tree. Seek shelter inside a vehicle, building, or shuttle bus. Note that shuttle buses only stop at designated bus stops. Be aware of possible flash floods and falling rocks during and after storms.

View Grand Canyon Safely Stay behind railings and safety walls or at least six feet (2 m) from the edge. Hold on to children. Always be aware of your surroundings. Look first where you are stepping before backing up.

Free Drinking Water The park and its partners provide free Grand Canyon spring water in bottle filling stations at major trailheads, visitor centers, grocery stores, and lodges.

Bring Your Leashed Pet Leashed pets are allowed on rim trails. Pets are not allowed below the rim, in buildings, or on shuttle buses. These limits do not apply to service animals. Anyone wishing to take a service animal below the rim must check in at the Backcountry Information Center.

Protect and Respect Wildlife Approaching or feeding any animal is dangerous—both to you and the animal—and illegal.

Deer and elk: Keep a safe distance of at least 75 feet (23 m) or about six car lengths.

Squirrels: Do not feed the squirrels. They will bite and can possibly carry fleas with the plague.

California condor: Stay at least 75 feet (23 m) away from these endangered birds.

Watch Out Below Rocks, coins, and trash tossed over the edge of Grand Canyon, and rocks dislodged by walking off trail, can injure hikers and wildlife below.

No Unmanned Aircraft Launching, landing, or operating an unmanned aircraft is prohibited inside Grand Canyon National Park.

Leave Everything You Find Grand Canyon National Park—a World Heritage Site—belongs to everyone. Please leave rocks, plants, wood, and artifacts where you find them.

Protect the View The walls of Grand Canyon tell an amazing story. That story can be altered when you leave graffiti.

Dispose of Your Litter Help keep Grand Canyon clean by recycling and using trash receptacles.

Visitor Services

Locations shown on the maps on pages 4–5. Core operating hours listed below; hours may be extended in summer.

Information: Village
BACKCOUNTRY INFORMATION CENTER
8 am–noon and 1–5 pm

GRAND CANYON VISITOR CENTER
8 am–5 pm

GRAND CANYON ASSOCIATION PARK STORE
AT VISITOR CENTER PLAZA
8 am–8 pm

KOLB STUDIO
8 am–8 pm

VERKAMP'S VISITOR CENTER
8 am–8 pm

YAVAPAI GEOLOGY MUSEUM
8 am–8 pm

Food and Beverage

BRIGHT ANGEL BICYCLES
Café at Mather Point Grab-and-go food and espresso bar. 7 am–6 pm

BRIGHT ANGEL LODGE
The Arizona Room Lunch 11:30 am–3 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm, reservations not accepted; lounge 4:30–10 pm
Bright Angel Coffee House 6–10 am
Bright Angel Ice Cream Fountain 10 am–5 pm, weather permitting
Bright Angel Breakfast 6:30–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–4 pm; dinner 4:30–10 pm
Bright Angel Lounge 11 am–11 pm

CANYON VILLAGE MARKET
Canyon Village Deli 8 am–6 pm

EL TOVAR HOTEL
El Tovar Breakfast 6:30–10:45 am; lunch 11:15 am–2 pm; dinner 5–10 pm, reservations recommended, 928-638-2631, ext. 6432
El Tovar Lounge 11 am–11 pm

HERMITS REST
Hermits Rest Snack Bar 9 am–5 pm

MASWIK LODGE
Maswik Food Court 6 am–10 pm
Maswik Pizza Pub 11 am–11 pm

YAVAPAI LODGE
Yavapai Restaurant 6:30 am–9 pm
Yavapai Tavern 11 am–10 pm
Yavapai Coffee Corner 7 am–3 pm

Services
ATM Chase Bank and Maswik Lodge

Canyon Village Market " General Store " Groceries, supplies, and gifts. 8 am–7 pm

Chase Bank Monday to Thursday 9 am–5 pm; Friday 9 am–6 pm. 928-638-2437

Garage Emergency repairs and tow service. 8 am to noon and 1–5 pm. 928-638-2631

Kaibab Learning Center Day care for one to 12 year olds; immunization records required. Monday to Friday, 7:30 am–5:30 pm. 928-638-6333

Kennel Dogs and cats need proof of vaccinations. 7:30 am–5 pm, 928-638-0534 For retrieval after 5 pm: 928-638-2631

Lost and Found 928-638-7798; 928-638-2631

Post Office Monday to Friday 9 am–4:30 pm; Saturday 11 am–1 pm; closed Sunday and federal holidays. 928-638-2512

Religious Services See schedules at Mather Campground, Shrine of the Ages, Grand Canyon Post Office, Grand Canyon Visitor Center, and Park Headquarters

Taxi Service in Village and Tusayan. 928-638-2822

WiFi and Public Computer Access
Park Headquarters: Free WiFi 8 am–5 pm, daily. Computers available in research library 8 am–4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, except federal holidays
Community Library: Free WiFi and computers available, 10:30 am–5 pm, Monday to Saturday
Hotel Lobbies: WiFi available 24 hours a day; fees may be charged
Canyon Village Market: WiFi; 8 am–7 pm

Lodging
Bright Angel Lodge, El Tovar Hotel, Kachina Lodge, Maswik Lodge, and Thunderbird Lodge Prices range from \$100–482; same-day reservations: 928-638-2631; advance reservations: 888-297-2757 or grandcanyonlodges.com
Yavapai Lodge prices range from \$89–182; reservations: 877-404-4611 or visitgrandcanyon.com
Phantom Ranch Meals, hiker dormitory, and cabin space located at bottom of the canyon. Next-day reservations: 928-638-3283; advance reservations: 888-297-2757

Camping
Mather Campground (National Park Service) \$18 per night family site; \$50 per night group site; \$25 per night horse site. No hook-ups; dump station nearby. Maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1 m). Reservations: recreation.gov or 877-444-6777.

Trailer Village
\$36 per night for two people; \$3.50 for each additional person over age 16. Pull-through sites with hookups; dump station nearby. Kiosk: 8 am–5 pm; same-day reservations: 928-638-3047; advance reservations: 877-404-4611 or visitgrandcanyon.com.

Laundry and Showers at Camper Services
8 am–6 pm, last laundry wash 4:45 pm

Books and Gifts
Bright Angel Lodge 7 am–10 pm
El Tovar Hotel 7 am–10 pm
Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
at **Kolb Studio** 8 am–8 pm
at **Verkamp's Visitor Center** 8 am–8 pm
at **Visitor Center Plaza** 8 am–8 pm
at **Yavapai Geology Museum** 8 am–8 pm
Hermits Rest Gift Shop 9 am–5 pm
Hopi House 9 am–5 pm
Lookout Studio 9 am–5 pm
Maswik Lodge 7 am–10 pm
Yavapai Gift Shop 8 am–8 pm

Tours and Trips
Bright Angel Bicycles Bicycle, wheelchair, and stroller rentals, guided tours daily, and repair/parts. 9 am–5 pm through October 31. Reservations: 928-638-3055 or bikegrandcanyon.com

Xanterra Transportation Desks Arrange tours and trips at Bright Angel Lodge 6 am–6:30 pm; El Tovar Hotel 7 am–9 pm; Maswik Lodge 6 am–6:30 pm

Xanterra Bus Tours Daily departures for sunrise and sunset viewing and to Desert View Watchtower and Hermits Rest. Reserve at El Tovar Hotel concierge desk or Bright Angel or Maswik Lodge transportation desks, 928-638-2631, or grandcanyonlodges.com

Xanterra Mule Trips Overnight trips to Phantom Ranch depart daily. A two-hour Canyon Vista ride along the rim departs twice daily. Inquire at Bright Angel or Maswik Lodge transportation desks or call 928-638-3283.

River Rafting

SMOOTH-WATER RAFT TRIPS
OUTSIDE THE PARK
Colorado River Discovery
888-522-6644 or www.raftthecanyon.com

WHITEWATER RAFT TRIPS
INSIDE THE PARK
nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/whitewater-rafting.htm

Additional Resources
Arizona Highway Information Dial 511 or 888-411-ROAD or visit az511.gov

Grand Canyon Chamber of Commerce
844-638-2901, www.grandcanyoncvb.org

Kaibab National Forest Tusayan Ranger District ranger station, 8 am–4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, 928-638-2443

Day Hikes Below the Rim

A day hike into Grand Canyon affords an unparalleled experience. Knowledge, preparation, and a good plan are all keys to success. Consider purchasing a trail guide at a GCA Park Store before venturing down the trail. Gauge your fitness level, be honest about your health, and don't compare yourself to five years ago. Know your limits and avoid spontaneity—Grand Canyon is an extreme environment!

Park rangers say "going down is optional, but coming up is mandatory." Plan to take twice as long to hike up as it took to hike down. *Stay together, follow your plan, and know where and how to seek help.*

Trail	Destination	Distance Roundtrip	Difficulty	Elevation Change From the Rim	Time Roundtrip	Facilities
Bright Angel Trail: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Follows Bright Angel Fault down Garden Creek Canyon on a well-maintained trail•Ride Village Route shuttle bus to trailhead•Water and toilets available at trailhead•Water not always available at Indian Garden and resthouses due to pipeline breaks or repair work—check at Backcountry Information Center before descending•<i>Always bring a method to treat water</i>	Upper Tunnel	0.4 miles (0.6 km)	easy	60 feet (20 m)	20 minutes	none
	Lower Tunnel	1.7 miles (2.8 km)	moderate	590 feet (180 m)	1–2 hours	none
	1½-Mile Resthouse	3 miles (4.8 km)	moderate	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	water, toilets, emergency phone
	3-Mile Resthouse	6 miles (9.6 km)	difficult	2,120 feet (645 m)	4–6 hours	water, toilets, emergency phone
	Indian Garden	9 miles (14.4 km)	very difficult	3,040 feet (925 m)	6–9 hours	water, toilets, ranger station, camping, emergency phone
South Kaibab Trail: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Follows an exposed ridge line on a well-maintained trail; best views during a relatively short hike•Ride the Kaibab/Rim Route or Hikers' Express shuttle bus to trailhead•Water, toilets, and pay phone located at trailhead	Ooh Aah Point	1.8 miles (2.9 km)	moderate	760 feet (230 m)	1–2 hours	none
	Cedar Ridge	3 miles (4.8 km)	difficult	1,120 feet (340 m)	2–4 hours	toilets
	Skeleton Point	6 miles (9.6 km)	very difficult	2,040 feet (620 m)	4–6 hours	none
Hermit Trail and Dripping Spring Trail: <ul style="list-style-type: none">•Offers intimate views of a long side canyon•Rough and unmaintained—for experienced desert hikers only•Begins west of Hermits Rest; ride the Hermits Rest Route shuttle bus to Hermits Rest•Water and toilets available at Hermits Rest	Hermit Basin	2.8 miles (4.5 km)	difficult	1,240 feet (380 m)	2–4 hours	none
	Santa Maria Spring	5 miles (8 km)	very difficult	1,680 feet (510 m)	4–6 hours	must treat water
	Dripping Spring	7 miles (11.3 km)	very difficult	1,040 feet (315 m)	5–7 hours	must treat water



Backcountry Camping Permits

You must obtain a permit from the Backcountry Information Center to camp anywhere in the park other than in a developed campground on the South Rim. A limited number of last minute walk-up permits are available.

For additional information about day and overnight hiking, visit the Backcountry Information Center or nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/backcountry.htm.

9 Essentials for Your Day Pack

Water At least two liters of water depending on hike intensity and duration. Eat and drink while resting; sip fluids while hiking. Always bring a method to treat water.

Food Salty snacks and a full meal. Eat often, even if you are not hungry. Snack every time you hydrate.

First Aid Kit and Survival Tools Also include medications, blister care, and duct tape.

Map Know your route. Many trails are well marked, but some are not.

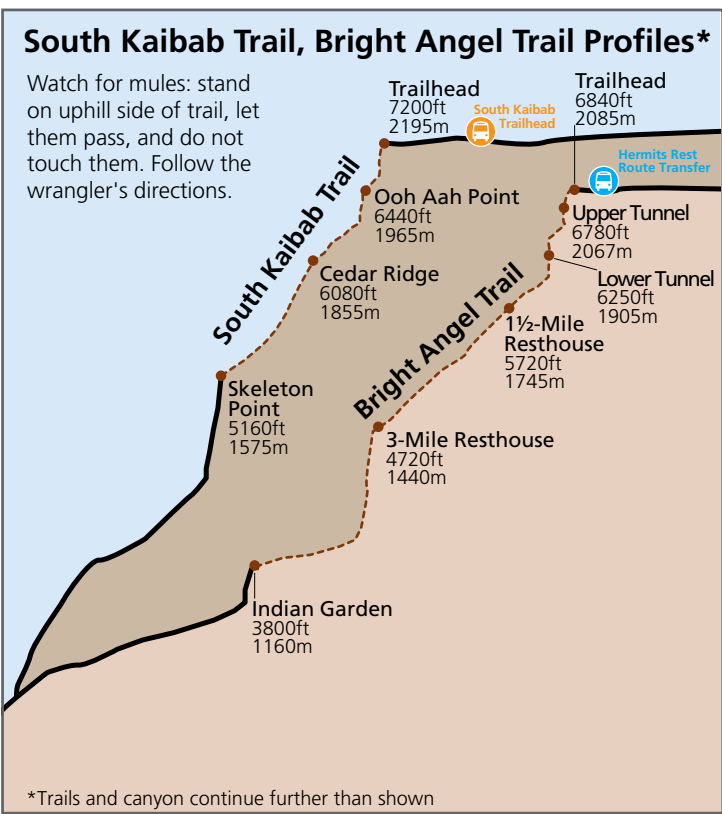
Flashlight or Headlamp You may end up hiking in the dark unexpectedly; cell phones do not provide adequate light.

Sun Protection Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, and a sun umbrella.

Communication Whistle or signal mirror; while cell phones are not reliable, they may be helpful.

Simple Shelters Emergency tarp with reflective side.

Weather-appropriate Clothing and Footwear Layer for the weather, protect yourself from the sun, and wear hiking boots with good soles. Remember that the weather can change suddenly.



4 Dangerous Health Risks

Common Challenges Any activity at high elevation and in a dry environment can bring your body past its limits, exacerbate medical conditions or current illnesses, and harm you due to a lack of regular exercise.

Heat-related Illnesses Beware of over-exposure to hot, dry weather. Rest in the shade, hydrate, and eat high-energy foods. *Start and finish your hike before 10 am or after 4 pm. Do not hike during the heat of the day.*

Hyponatremia This common hiking illness occurs from overhydration and low salt ingestion during a strenuous hike—a deadly condition if ignored. Balance hydration with salty snacks, eat a well-rounded lunch, and rest frequently.

Over Exertion When looking from the rim into Grand Canyon everything looks close—but it is not! Know your limits, pace yourself, and take a 5- to 10-minute break every hour. If you are not feeling well, rest at least 30 minutes. Turn around on your hike before you feel tired.

Warning!

- Hiking to the river and back in one day is not recommended due to long distances, extreme temperature changes, and a near 5,000-foot (1,500 m) elevation change each way. If you think you have the fitness and experience to attempt this *extremely strenuous* hike, please seek the advice of a park ranger at the Backcountry Information Center.
- The Colorado River is fast, wide, and a cold 46°F (8°C) year-round. Do not swim in the river—you will perish!



Desert View

Core operating hours listed; hours may be extended in summer.

Information

DESERT VIEW WATCHTOWER
8 am to 30 minutes before sunset.
Stairs close one hour before sunset. See page 2 for sunset times.

TUSAYAN MUSEUM AND RUIN
9 am–5 pm

Books and Gifts

Desert View Trading Post 9 am–5 pm
Grand Canyon Association Park Stores
Desert View Watchtower 8 am to 30 minutes before sunset.
Tusayan Museum and Ruin 9 am–5 pm

Food and Beverage

Desert View Snack Bar 9 am–4 pm; located in Desert View Trading Post

Services

Desert View Market 8 am–5 pm
Desert View Service Station 9 am–5 pm through late October; fuel, including diesel, available 24 hours a day with credit card

Camping

Desert View Campground (National Park Service) \$12 per night; no hookups; maximum vehicle length 30 feet (9.1 m); first-come, first-served self registration.

Park Ranger Programs

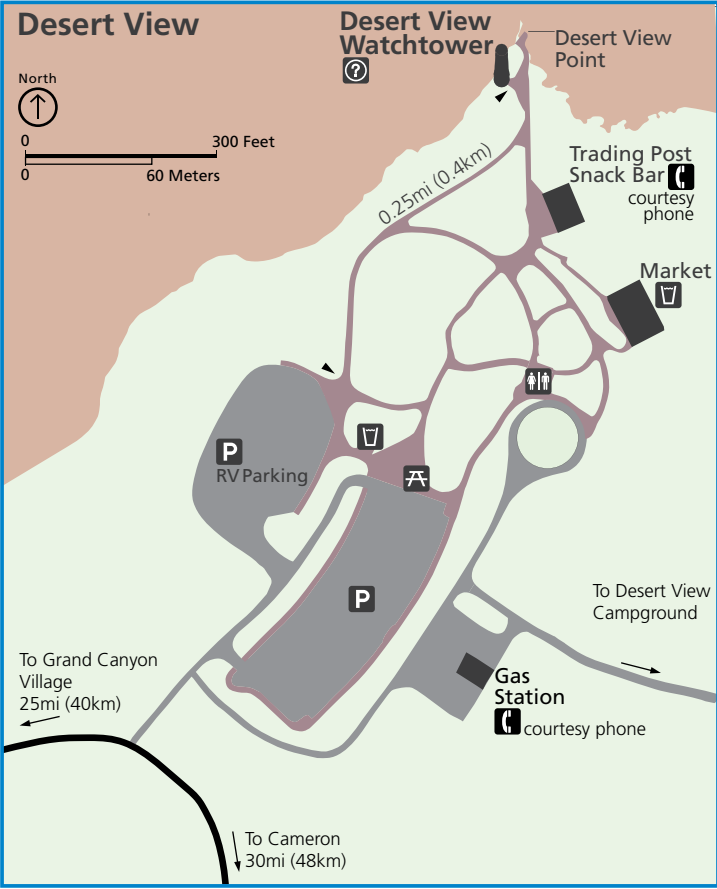
Tusayan Ruin Tour 11 am and 1:30 pm daily at Tusayan Museum; 20 minutes on a flat, easy trail; accessible. Explore how ancestral Puebloan people met their needs while creating homes at Grand Canyon.

Watchtower Rove 2 pm daily at Desert View Watchtower; not accessible. Drop by anytime between 2 pm and 4 pm to meet a park ranger and learn about Mary Colter and her historic Watchtower.

Sunset Talk One hour before sunset daily—see page 2 for sunset times; 60 minutes; accessible. Meet in front of Desert View Watchtower to enjoy a beautiful sunset while exploring Grand Canyon's fascinating natural and cultural resources.

Desert View Cultural Demonstrations

DESERT VIEW WATCHTOWER 9 am–4:30 pm		
Duane Tawahongva June 6–7 Hopi overlay jewelry	Jessica Lomatewama June 20–21 Hopi basket making	Karen Abeita August 1–2 Hopi potter
Rose Bighorse June 13–14 Navajo weaver	Jonah Hill July 25–26 Hopi silversmith and ethnobotany	Gerard Begay September 5–6 Navajo weaver



Walk the Rim Trail

The Rim Trail stretches from South Kaibab Trailhead to Hermits Rest. It offers a diverse hiking experience along 13 miles (21 km) of the canyon, shown by brown and green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. Choose your adventure, from a short sunrise walk

to a full afternoon hike. The Rim Trail is wheelchair-accessible from Lookout Studio to South Kaibab Trailhead. Ride the free shuttle bus and add variety into your Rim Trail adventure by walking one way and riding back. Distances below are one way.

Difficulty	Start	Finish	Distance	Attraction
Easy, popular Wide, paved trail; accessible for strollers and wheelchairs with assistance	Mather Point	Yavapai Point	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	View of Colorado River and Phantom Ranch
	Yavapai Geology Museum	Verkamp's Visitor Center	1.3 miles (2.1 km)	Touch rocks from all of Grand Canyon's layers along the award-winning Trail of Time
	Verkamp's Visitor Center	Kolb Studio	0.6 miles (1 km)	Explore local history in the village historic district
Easy, Less Traveled Little elevation gain	South Kaibab Trailhead	Mather Point	2.1 miles (3.4 km)	Great views of a trail going down into Grand Canyon; paved
	Monument Creek Vista	Hermits Rest	2.8 miles (4.5 km)	Quiet and less crowded with forest and canyon views; paved
	Hopi Point	Powell Point	0.3 miles (0.5 km)	Expansive east and west views of Grand Canyon; unpaved
Moderate Some elevation gain and/or rough terrain	Mohave Point	Monument Creek Vista	2.0 miles (3.2 km)	Unpaved trail with great views
	Hermits Rest Route Transfer	Trailview Overlook	0.7 miles (1.1 km)	Views of the Village and Bright Angel Trail; paved, steep grade

Pedaling the Park

Bicycle along the canyon rim and through peaceful forest scenery by following the green dashed lines on the map on pages 4–5. Bicycles are only permitted on the Greenway Trail, paved roads, and dirt roads open to vehicles. Bicycles are prohibited on the Rim Trail and trails down into Grand Canyon. Consider riding your bicycle one way and riding the shuttle bus back.

Obey all traffic regulations, ride single file with the flow of traffic, and wear bright colors and a helmet. *On Yaki Point and Hermit roads, bicyclists must pull to the right shoulder and dismount when a shuttle bus passes.*

Did you know?
A four-mile (6.4 km) bicycle trip keeps approximately 15 pounds (6.8 kg) of vehicle pollutants out of the air we breathe.



Lightning is dangerous. Stay away from the edge of the canyon to avoid deadly situations. Seek shelter inside a building or vehicle.